

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office action mailed on August 27, 2007 has been carefully reviewed and the above identified amendments have been provided to thoroughly address each of the rejections provided by the examiner in that Office action. In addition, the following remarks are submitted to clarify and explain the importance of the above amendments and to support a finding by the examiner that the claims, as amended, are now in a form warranting allowance of this case. Accordingly, the undersigned respectfully requests reconsideration by the examiner in this case.

At the outset, applicant notes from page 3 of the most recent Office action that claims 9-12, 16-18 and 20 were only objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. These claims were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has chosen to follow this suggestion by the examiner to place this case in proper form for allowance.

In particular, claim 9 has been amended to include the requirements of claims 1 and 8 and to be placed in independent form. Claim 10 has been amended to include the requirements of claim 1 and to be placed in independent form. Claims 11 and 12 have been left unamended depending in series from amended claim 10. Claim 16 has been amended to include the requirements of claims 14 and 15 and to be placed in independent form. Claim 17 has been left unamended, depending from amended claim 16. Claim 18 has been amended to depend directly from amended claim 16. Claim 20 has been amended to include the requirements of claim 19 and to be placed in independent form. With these amendments, applicant respectfully submits that claims 9-12, 16-18 and 20 are now in a form warranting allowable status.

The examiner has rejected claims 1-8, 13-15 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Ahlgren. Applicant has canceled claims 1-8, 13-15 and 19, thus addressing this rejection.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the examiner pass this case to issue. If, upon consideration, the examiner believes further issues remain outstanding or new ones have been generated, the undersigned requests that the examiner call the undersigned to set up a personal or telephone interview with the undersigned to resolve any such remaining issues.

Respectfully Submitted:



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Date